

Adulteration of Kerosene with Diesel/Petrol

[†]1644. SHRI MANOHAR KANT DHYANI: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that due to huge difference in the rate of kerosene oil and diesel/petrol, kerosene is being adulterated with diesel/petrol on a large scale and sold by the owners of petrol pumps;

(b) if so, the number against whom action has been taken by his Ministry, so far, alongwith the number of petrol pumps the licences of which have been cancelled last year in the country;

(c) whether any proof of collusion of the staff of concerned departments has also been found; and

(d) if so, the action taken against such persons?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI E. PONNUSWAMY): (a) to (d) Due to price differential between kerosene oil and petrol/diesel, there is a possibility that some persons may resort to adulteration of automobile fuels.

The result of inspection carried out by the oil marketing companies at retail outlets during the year 1999-2000, the irregularities detected and action taken are given in the annexed statement. (*see below*)

The dealership agreement of the oil marketing companies provide for termination of the dealership if dealer tampers with the quality of the product.

[†]Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

Statement**RESULTS OF INSPECTIONS CARRIED OUT AT RETAIL OUT-
LETS AND IRREGULARITIES/MALPRACTICES DETECTED
DURING THE LAST ONE YEAR**

	1999-2000
No. of Inspections conducted	80613
Irregularities/Malpractices detected	
1. Discrepancy in stock	101
2. Suspected product adulteration	442
3. Over charging	2
4. Unauthorised Sale	6
5. Short Delivery	272
6. Others	63
Total	886

Action Taken

1. Termination	1
2. Suspension of Sales & supplies	563
3. Explanation called for/showcause notice or warning letters issued	297
4. Fines imposed	0
Total	861

Press conference on Diesel and Petrol Adulteration

1645. SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether he had in a Press Conference on 4th June, 2000 told newsmen that Government have taken steps to put curbs to check diesel and petrol adulteration;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) to what extent adulteration has been checked?